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Extended School Year program open registration

HOLYOKE – Families can register their students for the 2020 Extended School Year (ESY) program registration window is open for qualifying students. Please note, while we are striving for in-person ESY services, the possibility of start/end date or time changes & the possibility of remote learning will be based on updated state guidance on school closure and social distancing. We will update you as we receive more information on this. If you are unsure if your child qualifies for extended year services or which

SCHOOL, 2

Girl Scouts care and share cookies with USO

HOLYOKE – In recognition of their Project Care and Share effort, Brownie Girl Scout Paige and Ambassador Girl Scout Julia will represent the Girl Scouts of Central and Western Massachusetts on Wednesday, June 3 in handing off 200 cases or 2,400 packages of Girl Scout Cookies they and fellow Girl Scouts collected through Project Care and Share. Representatives from USO Pioneer Valley will be on hand to accept and load the cookies beginning at 9 a.m., Wednesday June 3 at the Girl Scout Leadership

COOKIES, 3

Leadership team gives update on re-opening

HOLYOKE – On Thursday, May 21, Holyoke Public Schools hosted the second Holyoke Public Schools Reopening Leadership team meeting. We also welcomed Devin Sheehan, School Committee member, to our team.

On Tuesday, May 19, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) issued new Considerations for school guidance, so we are using these to inform our current thinking about reopening. We are still awaiting guidance from the Governor's

RE-OPENING, 5

Police presence increased at mall

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com



A state trooper is stationed outside of Target at the Holyoke Mall. Police presence has increased at the mall recently due to threats of violence, riots, and looting.

Photos by Gregory A. Scibelli



A pair of state troopers converge on the Macy's side of the mall before heading on patrol.

HOLYOKE – There has been an increased state and local police presence during the past week at the Holyoke Mall at Ingleside.

Due to various threats, protests, and riots that have been taking place, the police increased its presence at the mall, which only has two major stores open currently.

The stores at the mall could start offering curbside service on Monday, June 8. Best Buy offers curbside service while Target is essential and has been open throughout the pandemic.

Both the state and local police have had an increased number of patrols after an incident last Friday led to believe there was a possibility of looting at the mall, which has been closed for more than two months to regular foot traffic.

Protests for the Minnesota man, George Floyd, have been occurring in cities and towns all over Western Massachusetts, with Springfield being a major hub.

Target, which is headquartered in Minneapolis, became a target for rioters and looters, leading to the posts made locally, prompting the police into preventative action.

See POLICE page 6

Council approves CPA funds for museum electrical work

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

HOLYOKE – The Wistriahurst Museum got a huge boost after the Holyoke City Council approved funding to make improvements to the museum.

The City Council approved \$104,500 in funding from the Community Preservation Act.

The funds will go toward a needed upgrade to the electrical system at the museum.

The upgrades were found to be needed after safety concerns were raised about some of the quality of wiring at the house.

Museum officials responded to the issue by limiting functions so as not to overload the electrical system. Since then, officials have been seeking out grants and other funding in order to make the necessary repairs and upgrades to bring the electrical system up to full

capacity for the safety of its patrons.

Kate Preissler, the museum's director, said it will cost more than \$350,000 to fix the electrical issues, and there is wiring in the museum that is nearly 100 years old.

Work will begin as soon as possible on the museum, a convenience for the facility, which is currently closed to regular visitors due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Preissler made a statement to the city council that outlined the funding request. She was able to gain funding through Mass. Cultural Council Facilities Fund, and will also get some monies from the Community Development Block Grant.

Preissler says she will have to pay to have a schematic design of an updated electrical system that must be approved by the Massachusetts Historical Commission because it is a

See MUSEUM, page 2

Markey, Neal push for rail 'Brain Train' funding

By Peter Spotts
pspots@turley.com

Expanded rail service for the region may find new support in Sen. Edward Markey's, D-Massachusetts, proposed "Brain Train" Act to authorize \$5 billion dollars annually for five years to invest in high-performance intercity passenger rail service.

Markey said during a video press conference on Friday, May 29, rail is needed to bring attention to the historically unconnected, or un-reconnected, communities. He didn't rule out the possibility of adding stops in Chester and Palmer when asked which towns will get rail stops between Boston and Pittsfield.

"We have a plan that would potentially go Boston, Framingham, Worcester, Palmer and Springfield out to Pittsfield. That would be how it would be envisioned right now," Markey said. "I wouldn't rule out other stops if they were deemed to be

necessary."

Westfield was also mentioned as being in the discussion. Ben Heckscher, cofounder of local advocate Trains in the Valley, noted that the more stops that are added, reduces train travel time. He also pointed out that Western Mass. is better connected to Connecticut and New York than Boston.

Markey strongly feels that rail investment is one of the ways to combat climate change and boost economic recovery following COVID-19, and connecting the eastern and western parts of the state, and beyond.

"Despite clear economic, environmental, and safety benefits, Congress has insufficiently invested in expanding passenger rail," Markey said. "Developing and restoring passenger rail service, especially in communities that have been under connected, is exactly the kind of recovery program that can help repair the economic damage caused by the

See RAIL page 9

Receiver response to Floyd death amid unrest

HOLYOKE – In response to some of the violence and riots that have taken place since the killing of George Floyd in Minnesota, Holyoke Public Schools Receiver Dr. Stephen Zrike addressed the community:

Holyoke Public School Community,
The tragic and senseless murder of George Floyd is a painful reminder of our country’s long history with racism. We condemn the actions that led to Mr. Floyd’s death and countless others who have been victimized because of their skin color. In the last few days, so many people in our community have experienced a wide range of emotions- frustration, anger, sadness, fear and outright exhaustion. So many members of our Holyoke family are hurting and we must support each other through this incredibly challenging time further complicated by the COVID-19 school closure.
In the coming days and weeks, our school leaders will create safe “virtual” spaces for students and staff to process and meaningfully react to the recent events that have plagued our

nation. Our schools will be offering developmentally appropriate and structured opportunities to engage in conversations to assist our students and staff with making sense of these horrific acts. It is critical that our students and staff of color know that they are seen, heard and emotionally and physically safe in the Holyoke Public Schools.
However, this must not be a fleeting moment. Our current outrage must translate into real action as we examine our individual and organizational biases and privileges. As part of my personal introspection as a white-skinned male, my privilege affords me multiple personal and professional advantages. I do not fear being followed around a store, do not experience people avoiding me as I walk down the street and have not been passed over for a job opportunity. As a father, I never have to talk with my daughter and son about how their race plays a role in the way they are treated. This privilege extends to how I viewed the events of the past week. While I was deeply troubled, my experience cannot be compared to people of color who

have been prejudged and marginalized their entire lives.
As a school system, we must acknowledge that we contribute to the racial divide that exists in our country. While we have made important strides to address inequities in the Holyoke Public Schools, we have not publicly stated that we are an anti-racist organization. Today, we make the important statement that Holyoke Public Schools is an Anti-Racist Organization. In *How to Be An Antiracist*, Ibram X. Kendi writes, “I define an antiracist idea as any idea that says the racial groups are equal. To be antiracist is to think nothing is behaviorally wrong or right -- inferior or superior -- with any of the racial groups.” We affirm our commitment to deeply examine the practices and policies that are predictive of who fails and who succeeds in HPS. Additionally, every educator in our system must reflect on their biases and privileges that influence how we interact with students, families and colleagues. This work belongs to all of us. White educators cannot rely on our

black and brown colleagues to bear the burden of leading this work. We all have the responsibility to eradicate racism and heal the wounds that racism has caused. I pledge to work closely with Dr. Vázquez Matos as he transitions to ensure that concrete steps are developed to more aggressively dismantle the systems that perpetuate racism in our schools. Dr. Vázquez Matos has significant experience supporting schools to become culturally proficient and developing solutions to combat institutional racism.
During this uncertain and difficult time, we must find strength in each other. We are a school system that is rich in diversity, intellect, and above all, in an undying belief in our youth. Our students need us to be courageous and to unify around a relentless commitment to seek educational justice for every student and stand up against racism. I have no doubt that the HPS community will transform the trajectory for every child who attends our schools.

Sincerely,
Steve



Suspects of a car break in are caught on a surveillance video. Submitted photo

Car break-ins on the rise

SPRINGFIELD – Hampden District Attorney Anthony Gulluni and the Massachusetts State Police Detectives assigned to his office are reporting an increase in motor vehicle thefts and break-ins over the past few months. Several recent incidents are connected to groups of individuals who travel into the area during the overnight hours, park in a neighborhood and walk around on foot looking for unlocked vehicles. The offenders check for unlocked cars and steal any valuables located inside. If the thieves find that keys or key fobs were left behind in the car, they may steal the car as well. Many of the vehicles stolen in the past few months are being recovered in the Hartford, CT area. Recent reports of these types of breaks have been reported in East Longmeadow, Longmeadow, West Springfield, and Ludlow.

The vast majority of vehicle thefts and break-ins can be prevented by taking

three common-sense steps to make your car a much less appealing target: Lock your vehicle when it is unattended and overnight. Never leaves keys or key fobs in your vehicle, even in your own driveway. Remove valuables or keep them out of sight to thieves.
Thieves look for opportunities. Make them “work” for it, and they will most likely forget it and move on to an easier target. Additional steps such as motion activated lights, security cameras, and car alarms can be helpful at deterring thieves.
Be Alert for Signs of Car Thieves
If you see suspicious activity or suspicious people checking parked cars in your neighborhood in the middle of the night, call your local police department and report it. Every tip may be helpful to investigators. Taking these few basic precautions can help ensure that your summer isn’t ruined by the headache of a stolen car.

Councilor Joseph McGiverin is the current chair of the Finance Committee, a sub-committee of the city council. His group recommended the CPA funding to the full council.
City Engineer Bob Peirent assisted with the proposal.
Wistriahurst’s most recent project was a call for archives of coronavirus stories and photos to document the history of the pandemic in the area.

MUSEUM, from page 1
registered historical building.
While the museum may have been able to open sometime this summer under the governor’s re-opening plan, it will remain closed through the summer and possibly re-open sometime this fall depending on what restrictions are in place for businesses.

AAA offices re-open

WEST SPRINGFIELD – AAA Pioneer Valley reopened all six branch offices Monday, June 1, 2020 following strict social distancing procedures and CDC guidelines for the protection and benefit of employees and AAA members.
Registry of Motor Vehicles services will be available by appointment only, to AAA members, who can reserve a time online up to two weeks in advance of service. AAA membership, insurance, travel and financial services will be available, either in person, by phone or through a virtual meeting. We encourage appointments for all services as there will be a strict limit on how many members can be in the offices at a given time. Appointments can be made by visiting www.AAA.com/appointments today.
“In strict adherence to the Governor’s guidance, we are pleased to be reopening offices in Hampden,

Hampshire and Franklin county with the goal of helping and serving during this challenging time,” said Chris Mensing, AAA Pioneer Valley President and CEO. “We’re also eager to resume Registry of Motor Vehicle services, though they will be by appointment moving forward for added AAA Member convenience,” he added. AAA’s 24-hour Emergency Roadside Assistance has been and continues to be available throughout the entirety of the COVID-19 shutdown.
AAA Pioneer Valley full-service branches are in Greenfield, Hadley, Springfield and West Springfield. Insurance only services are available in Chicopee and Westfield. Clients and AAA Members should visit www.AAA.com/appointments to make an appointment in advance. Office hours have changed and are now Monday - Friday from 9 a.m.- 5 p.m.

Bill expands access to unemployment benefits statewide

BOSTON – A bill providing additional unemployment insurance relief to individuals, nonprofits and employers championed by state Sen. Eric Lesser and Sen. Patricia Jehlen was signed into law May 27 by Gov. Charlie Baker.
The bill, “An act providing additional support to those affected by the novel coronavirus through the unemployment insurance system,” builds on legislation already enacted waiving the one-week waiting period to receive benefits.
“It is welcome news that this legislation, passed with bipartisan support, has been quickly signed into law,” Lesser, Senate chair of the Joint Committee on Economic Development and Emerging Technologies, said. “Our communities are facing layoffs and potnetial long-term consequences during this health and economic crisis. This is a vital action taken to protect the wellbeing of our economy while providing urgent relief for over one

million families and hundreds of small businesses.”
Components of the bill include protection for employers, extending the unemployment benefit period, lifting the cap on dependency allotment, and giving a grace period for nonprofits to self-insure for unemployment claims. The bill prevents layoffs related to the coronavirus from negatively impacting an employer’s future UI contributions; ensures the 30-week benefit period is triggered by a significant uptick in weekly claims; and eliminates the 50 percent cap for the dependency allotment, effective for 18 months after the end of the COVID-19 emergency and enhanced federal benefits. Additionally, nonprofits will have a 120-day grace period to make unemployment contributions, as many self-insure for unemployment claims, paying the cost of those benefits at the next billing period.

SCHOOL, from page 1

program they are recommended for, please check your child’s most current IEP and/or check with your child’s special education teacher or team leader.

Please reach out to Rebecca Lamb at rlamb@hps.holyoke.ma.us if you have any questions about the online registration process. Please reach out to Jill Hughes at jhughes@hps.holyoke.ma.us if you have any questions about extended year services.

Hibernians announce Donahue Scholarship winners

The Ancient Order of Hibernians James A. Curran Division One (A.O.H.) and the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians Division Two (L.A.O.H.) of Hampden/Hampshire Counties have chosen three area students to receive the 2020 Maurice A. Donahue Memorial Scholarship. Scholarship Chairperson Paul O. Mengel has released the decision of the committee: Kathleen Beliveau of West Springfield; Julia Pratt of South Hadley and Katherine Taylor of Southampton. Mengel states “that these young people are exceptional students and proven school leaders who are determined to give back to the community. I wish them every success in the future.”

The Hibernians are committed to preserving the legacy of the late Massachusetts State Senate President, educator and fellow Hibernian Maurice A. Donahue to encourage young people to pursue Higher Education. The Institute for Governmental Services at the University of Massachusetts now the Donahue Institute for Governmental Services was created in the 1970’s by Donahue and Dr. Arthur Eve, a faculty member at UMASS School of Education. According to the Institute’s website: over the past decade the Institute has spon-

sored and coordinated civic and international education programs, worked on early childhood initiatives and assumed a central role in the Massachusetts STEM initiative(STEM is an acronym for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics.) The STEM initiative seeks to encourage young people to pursue degrees in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. The website goes on to say that the Institute was named after Donahue because he was a legislator of uncommon integrity who helped to shape the state’s higher education landscape.... The continued growth and dynamic service of the Donahue Institute today and into the future continue to be a testament to the dedication and vision of Maurice A. Donahue and Arthur Eve.”

Katherine Beliveau, daughter of Scott and Joanne Beliveau of West Springfield attended West Springfield High School and will attend Springfield College. She was nominated by her Grandmother Barbara Gaughan, and is committed to community service. She has incorporated Maurice A. Donahue’s philosophy in her life’s goals: “Let us place ourselves in the shoes of the less fortunate and determine humanely what we must do and do it.”

Julia Pratt, daughter of David and Karla Pratt of South Hadley attended South Hadley High School and will attend the University of Rhode Island to major in speech pathology. She was nominated by her Grandmother Judy Pratt. Besides contributing her energies to the school community at South Hadley High, she continued to volunteer during the holidays with the Holyoke Police Department’s Christmas Toy Drive.

Katherine Taylor, daughter of Mark and Judy Taylor of Southampton attended Hampshire Regional High School and will attend St. Anselm’s College. She was nominated by her Grandfather George Cauley. Katherine is very involved in her community with the weekend meals program, the Northampton Survival Center Soup Kitchen and YMCA- Rise Against Hunger Program in Easthampton to name a few.

The monies for this year’s scholarships were raised at our annual “Irish Night in Holyoke”, a sell-out crowd at the Log Cabin in Holyoke in February- an Irish Cultural Event featuring a corned beef dinner, along with Irish music, bagpipes and dancing. The successful night prompted A.O. H. President Paul

Hogan to enthusiastically say: “I recognize the hard work of the members of the L.O.A.H. and the A.O.H. and because of their tireless efforts and continued generosity and support, I am proud to call myself a Hibernian.”

Since February, much has changed in the world and for the Hibernian’s yearly calendar due to the abundance of caution needed during the corona virus pandemic. The L.A.O.H. Quilt fundraising was cut short due to event cancellations. Though the Hibernian Annual Communion Breakfast was postponed, the group looks forward to a new date to award the Christian Charity Award to Sr. Joan Magnani, SSJ , the Executive Director of the Bureau for Exceptional Children and Adults at Jericho in Holyoke. The Hibernian Annual Picnic at Hamel’s Summit House had to be cancelled. The A.O. H. can be reached by calling President Paul Hogan at 413-210-1416 or L.A.O.H. President Paula Paoli at 413-210-6031 or the website at aoh-holyoke.com. The Hibernian public relations Chairperson Francis X. Hennessey sends a positive message of hope for the future and urges the community to “hold onto the fond memories of times past, and be determined to create even better times.”

Community colleges announce small business resource series

HOLYOKE – Holyoke Community College and Springfield Technical Community College will jointly host a series of online workshops in June and July for area employers who want to explore programs, services and grant-funded workforce training opportunities to boost their small businesses.

Each of the three, 45-minute remote sessions will meet from 9 to 9:45 a.m. and focus on a different government funding source: June 18 (Massachusetts Workforce Training Fund); June 25 (U.S. Small Business Administration); and July 2 (Registered Apprenticeships, a program of the U.S. Dept. of Labor). Session leaders will talk about program requirements, funding availability, and application processes.

The Small Business Resource Series is being offered by HCC and STCC through their Training and Workforce Options partnership – TWO.

“Covid-19 is having a powerful impact on the workforce and our economy,” said Sharon Grundel, director of corporate training for TWO. “To emerge stronger, businesses really need to start re-tooling how they operate now and that includes re-training their workforce to meet new workplace demands. Through TWO, HCC and STCC are at the crossroads of industry and education and perfectly positioned to assist.”

Advance registration is required for all sessions. To register, please go to:

hcc.edu/business-series

Log in information for each remote session will be supplied after registration is complete.

Part I: Workforce Training Fund, June 18, 9-9:45 a.m.: Workforce Training Fund outreach manager Kristen Rayne will provide an overview of grant programs.

Part II: Small Business Administration, June 25, 9-9:45 a.m.: Oreste Varela, branch manager for the SBA office in Springfield, will talk about SBA programs and services available to prospective and current entrepreneurs who need assistance starting or expanding their businesses.

Part III: Registered Apprenticeships, July 2, 9-9:45 a.m.: Melissa A. Scibelli, director of Workforce Development Programs for MassHire, Hampden County Workforce Board, will discuss the Registered Apprenticeship program, an innovative, work-based learning model for new hires and incumbent employees that provides funds to assist businesses in closing critical workforce gap shortages through on-the-job learning and related technical industry training.

For more information, please contact Tracey Whitfield, director of business development, at 413-221-4443/ twhitfield@twoworks.edu or Sharon Grundel, director of corporate training, at 413-552-2316/sgrundel@twoworks.edu.

Share your stories of staying at home

The Holyoke Sun wants to know how you’re coping with the coronavirus closures and how they’ve changed all of our lives — no school, no work, social distancing and staying at home.

We can’t meet our neighbors in the schoolyards, playing fields or workplaces of Holyoke, but we can all share a few snapshots of what life’s like with the kids in the house and the home office working overtime. Take a minute to send in an update on how you’re doing, what fun enrichment activities the kids have been up to, or anything else that’s made the past two weeks a special time in your home. Include full names of the writer or photographer, and anyone visible in

each photo. We’ll print the best entries in next week’s newspaper, and in subsequent weeks as the state of emergency continues. The best way to contact us is at thesun@turley.com.

We would also be glad to publish Holyoke children’s artwork, essays or photos created during the school closure. Include the creator’s full name, age, and school attended.

For all submissions, also include a telephone number and email address. We won’t publish this information, but may use it to verify identities or ask follow-up questions.

Stay safe out there — and let us know how you’re doing!

Schools seek learning grant

HOLYOKE – Holyoke Public Schools, Department of Extended Learning & Professional Development intends to apply for the Massachusetts 21st Century Community Learning Centers FY21 Exemplary Programs Grant. The purpose of the grant funding is to support the Connections After School Program and Summer Program at McMahon School by increasing the motivation to learn through culturally responsive, interactive, relevant, and engaging programming that includes high quality Project Based Learning (PBL) that is aligned to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education’s goals and strategies. Lt. Elmer J. McMahon School will be applying for Practicing Status for a

total grant award of up to \$119,212.50. The after-school program for the 2020-2021 school year will begin in early October and end in May. More specific details on start and end dates will be published at a later date. If awarded funding to continue supporting the 21st Century Community Learning Center at McMahon School, Holyoke Public Schools will notify the community through publication in the Holyoke Sun, the Holyoke Public Schools district website, Facebook, Holyoke Highlights, the district Buzz to all principals and administrators, and other relevant platforms or publications deemed appropriate by the Director of Extended Learning and Director of Communications.

COOKIES, from page 1

Center at 301 Kelly Way in Holyoke.

Approximately 6,000 Girl Scouts participated in the annual Girl Scout Cookie Program.

The Girl Scouts sell cookies to raise funds for their troop activities and community service projects and also accept

donations, which they, in turn, donate to the local military and non-profits.

- 7,200 packages of cookies in all
- 2,400 to USO Pioneer Valley
- 2,400 to UMass Memorial Medical Center
- 1,800 to The Worcester County Food Bank
- 600 to Webster/Dudley Food Share




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Guest Column

Mother Goose more than a story

By Joan E. B. Coombs



Mother Goose Nursery rhymes originated in long ago times and in the far-away lands of England, Scotland and the USA. However, every spring and fall, a reminder of those Mother Goose moments appears in a waterfowl sky-writing. Their flock's V-formation, along with vivid visuals and honking as they fly together, and then land near a marsh, a lake, and on well-mowed, grassy fields.

Once upon a month ago, several Canadian geese families flew, landed and began hovering over their securely nestled nests on the edges of a nearby thriving marsh. And, so with the springtime arrival of a modern-day version of Mr. Gander and Mum Goose and the gosling nursery time grew from incubation to fuzz-frosted fledglings in about four weeks.

With a clear view of her surroundings, our resident Mum Goose found a safe site from predators. She designed a nest from plants and moss with im-peck-able skill. Soft down and feathers lined her shoreline nursery where she laid about eight, off-white eggs. Over the next 30-days, she incubated her eggs nestling and daily turning them, Mr. Gander stood on stretched-neck-watch duty guarding her and her nested eggs closely.

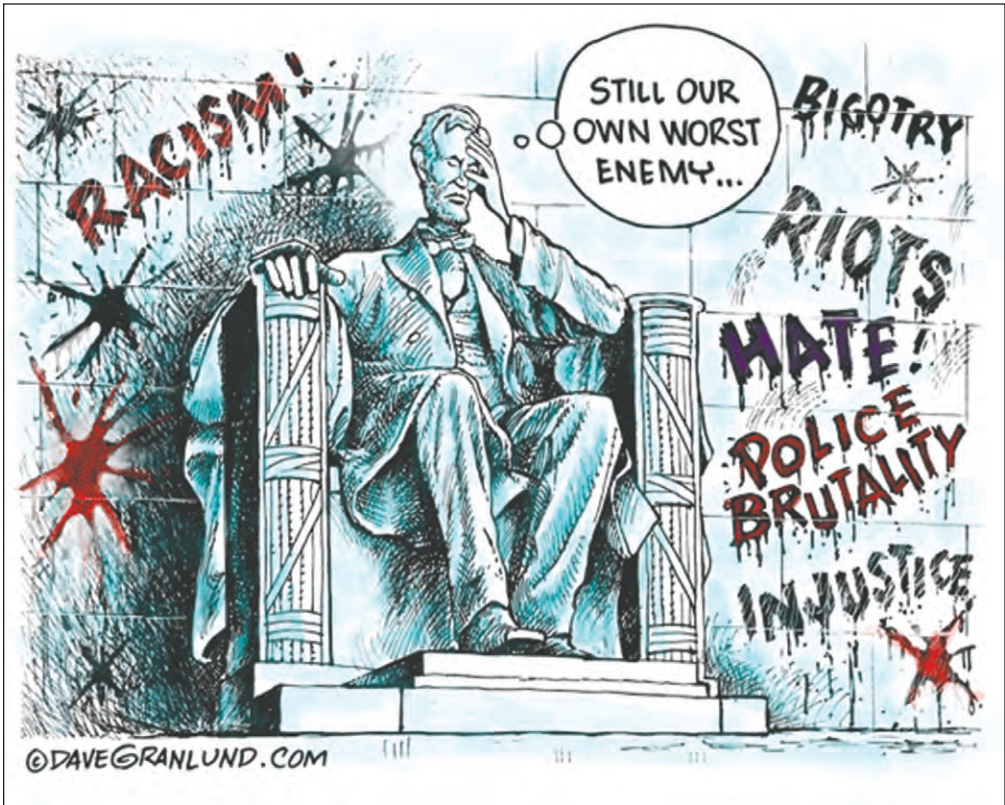
And, yes, as a Geese and Gosling nursery story should tell, it's a cozy, snuggle-and-settle-in family story. In it we read that Mr. Gander and Mum Goose are life-long mates. Using their parenting skills together, they lead and teach the fledglings how to walk, eat, and "peep-talk" while feeding and grooming the grounds for fresh grass, and easy-to-eat foods.

Quite naturally through the following months, the goslings learn to swim and fly under their parent's watchful eye. And, by the time a return flight to a warmer climate happens in late fall, they are all able to join in a return V-formation flight to their original homeland.

Yet, not only can we learn lessons from the land-living lifestyle of Mr. Gander, Mum Goose and their traditional family values, but even their annual spring and fall flight patterns show us all timely valuable, team-spirit lessons.

Briefly, all evidence shows that when Geese migrate they follow a leader in a V-pattern. Each consecutive goose flies to the right or left of the leader, flapping their

See GOOSE, page 5

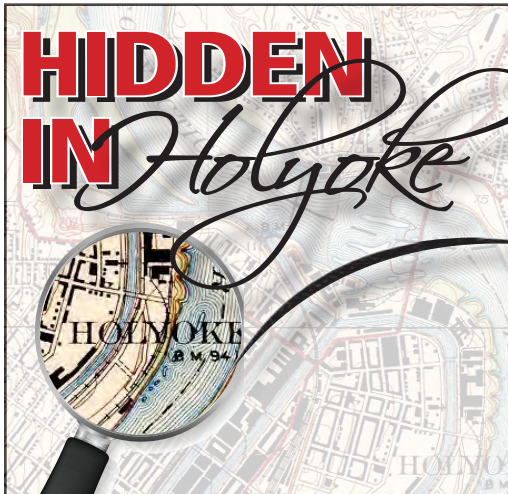


Poetry Corner

Today...Too Much...Too Much

By Thomas J. Kennedy

Today...Too Much...Too Much Today.
Forget...You, Once a child but –
Lost Church, genuine family, and noble education.
911 was short-lived and
You knew little about sacrifice on foreign shores.
Your two generation not grounded in good values.
Too much anger, guilt and fear– Must rid of this–
The Group will take You over
Now you lost your Freedom.
Need excitement to bury the emotion.
Head playing now– More frequent
As the ploy shows through
You, so called, use the right short word
But to seek your weak heart– Absurd
Time is somewhere beyond when...
Seen too much broken home,
Brokenness, immorality dress, words, overall behavior,
Angry TV and Videos– Even commercials too cruel for children.
Too much... Too much hurt, pain, sadness and sorrow.
Now again, you forgot too soon and lost in artificial fun–
Sex, power, position and money– Fools you are to set bad example,
For the pain and sins will eventually will destroy you in your unjust anger.
Forced to grow up too fast when your age doesn't match your latent maturity.
Seen too much, maybe less tech time quasi babysitter.
The tradeoff so symbiotic even beyond...
Greatest Injustice to me, "Cheat a Child out of their Childhood."
Yes, this loss and abuse whether physical, sexual, social or psychological
Will be a hurt-filled anger for too many, all their lives– Hard to replace
Unless all seek God First– Peace, love and joy.



Each week, *The Holyoke Sun* will feature a photo of a distinctive place, landmark, sculpture, sign or other recognizable object located somewhere in the city.

Think you know what or where it is? Readers are encouraged to submit their guesses to "Hidden in Holyoke" via email to TheSun@Turley.com. In order to qualify for the weekly contest, entries must be received by Wednesday at noon for inclusion into Friday's edition. Please include your full name with your guess in an email to TheSun@turley.com. If more than one correct answer is received, the names of all those who submitted guesses will be listed. For more information, contact *The Holyoke Sun* at 413-283-8398.



Last week's "Hidden in Holyoke" was H.B. Lawrence Elementary School, Cabot Street.

HOLYOKE
the Sun

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A Quote

OF NOTE

"The pessimist sees difficulty in every opportunity. The optimist sees the opportunity in every difficulty."

Winston Churchill

Letters to the Editor Policy

Letters to the Editor have a maximum of 350 words. We require writers to include their name, address and phone number in order for our office to authenticate authorship prior to publication. Addresses and phone numbers are not published.

Unsigned or anonymous letters will NOT be published.

We reserve the right to edit or withhold any submissions. Libelous, unsubstantiated allegations, personal attacks or defamation of character are not allowed.

Deadline for submissions is Wednesday at noon.

Please email (preferred) letters to thesun@turley.com. Mailed letters can be sent to *The Sun*, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069.

Keep a constant supply of bush beans coming

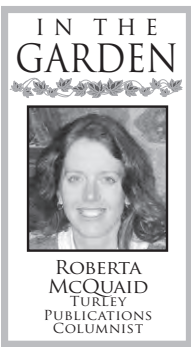
Bush beans are a good example of a vegetable that works well as a succession crop. What that means is that they can be sown multiple times throughout the summer. Why? Because unlike most other vegetables, beans produce less than eight weeks from sowing, are not finicky about heat and as long as you have full sun and average garden soil, they can be grown with relative ease. Consider making additional sowings of this versatile vegetable now before you get busy with the harvest. That way you can enjoy a continuous supply all summer long.

You might still refer to snap or bush beans as “string beans” even though the tough strings that connected the two halves of the pod were bred out of the snap bean beginning in 1884 with Calvin N. Keeney’s introduction of the stringless refugee wax bean. Today’s modern stringless beans are a result of those early breeding efforts.

All types of beans require warm soil in which to germinate; 60 degrees at least, hence the few plants from that early sowing. My sowing on Memorial Day is

just starting to poke through the soil. Did you know that white-seeded varieties are especially picky about soil temperatures? Black and tan seeds regulate moisture intake more effectively, and therefore are less likely to rot in cool, wet soils. If you want to gamble with an early sowing, sow these instead. Usually by May 20, the ground is warm enough to sow all types of beans. Succession plantings can be made every 10 days through July 30. After that it is unlikely that plants will produce a viable crop before frost hits.

Rather than sowing bean seeds in rows, I make good use of garden space by planting them in a four-foot wide block. Anything wider than four feet would make it difficult to reach in among the plants to harvest. If soil has been turned over or rototilled first it is easy to simply place the bean seeds on top of the soil four inches apart and push them into the ground with your index finger, up to the first knuckle. Pat the surface of the



soil with your palm to firm, and water well. Germination will take place in a week to 10 days.

It is good practice not to work among the plants after a rainstorm or in the early morning when dew is present. Touching wet foliage can encourage diseases and spread them from plant to plant. When the foliage is dry you will want to be on the look out

for the Mexican bean beetle. A bit larger than ladybugs, and all brown, these pests and their fuzzy yellow larvae can decimate a stand of bean plants. Vigilance is the key. If squashing bugs isn’t for you, dropping them into soapy water will also do them in. Try planting marigolds nearby to deter them. I have also found through experience that subsequent sowings are best sited away from one another. It will take the beetles a longer time to find the new plants than if they are planted side by side.

Harvest beans when they are still relatively thin. Depending on the variety,

pods can average five to seven inches long at maturity. When inner seeds start to swell and fatten up the bean they aren’t nearly as tasty. As mentioned, bumper crops are possible, and sometimes it may be difficult to keep up with the harvest. One variety known especially for its holding power is Jade. Beans from this variety retain a deep green color and sport thin pods. I have also enjoyed growing French beans “Haricot Verts” because they are very long and thin, never tough.

Fresh beans are easy to freeze. Blanch in boiling water for three minutes then plunge into ice water until cooled. Air-dry thoroughly, pack in plastic bags, and place in the freezer.

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For the last 28 years, she has held the position of staff horticulturalist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to ekennedy@turley.com with “Gardening Question” in the subject line.

RV industry booming

By Dalton Zbierski
Staff Writer

REGION – Make no mistake about it, the RV industry is booming. As the travel industry struggles, residents looking to vacation are investing in an alternate mode of transportation, and dealers are cashing in.

“We have everything in place. We don’t have to invent anything,” said Bob

Zagami, Executive Director of the New England RV Dealers Association. “People want to have a great time with their families, they want to be outdoors in the fresh air, they want to go hiking, biking, fishing or just sit around the campfire and talk to the kids. We have the industry that will allow them to do that.”

Nine million RVs are already on the road in the United States and 400,000 new RVs are sold each year, said Zagami.

From \$6,000 pop-up campers to million-dollar motor homes, the industry has much to offer.

“Take any aspect of it that you want, the whole industry is showing positive increases and accessibility across markets that we’d never thought of before,” said Zagami.

COVID-19 has been tough on many, but the rising demand for motor homes has kept Zagami’s industry functioning

well. He shared insight on why RVs have become one of this spring’s hottest commodities.

“Airlines are going to take years to come back. Cruise ships? I don’t know what they can do short of giving out free passes to get somebody back on a ship,” said Zagami. “As we make more people aware of our products and services and as

See RV, page 9

GOOSE, from page 4

wings on sustaining, upward currents. They trust their leader. And, yet within the power of the flock, a rotation pattern can take place. Also, when one goose becomes unable to fly, several will depart and fly down to earth to be with it. When well again, they can rejoin a flock or make their own flight pattern. Trust is an important part of the flock’s direction and success. And, if you’ve watched geese in their annual spring and fall, V-flight patterns, you’ve no doubt heard the honking joy of their journeys together.

Perhaps the older Ganders and Mum Geese are following the young ones in their first long-distance flight and cheering them on? Maybe a few young ones fly to earth to accompany, help and be with Grandpa Gander and Grand Mum Goose when their wings get tired? I can imagine that happening as one of the grandest nursery stories on God’s good earth along with adventures and observations of some of nature’s most beautiful creatures.

And, that’s how the Geese, the goslings, (and not forgetting the gander “of examining things closely”) lived happily in ever-after land.

RE-OPENING, from page 1

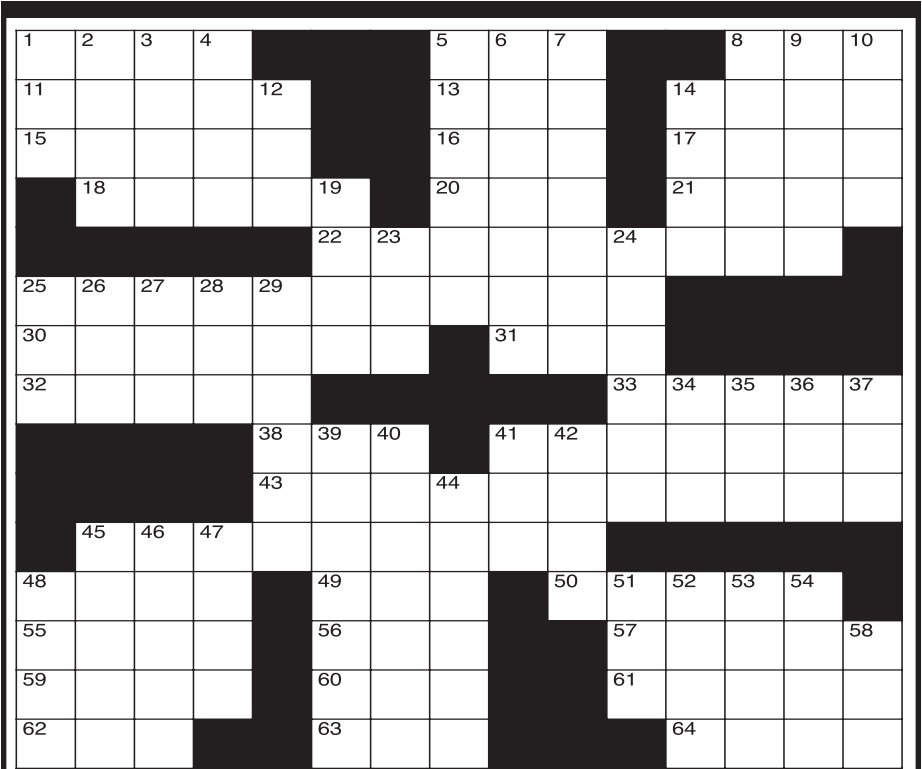
office about school reopening. In the meantime, the central office and school buildings will be following the guidance issued by the Governor’s office about Phase 1 reopening of offices. We found this checklist to be particularly helpful.

As a reminder, we have established 7 committees: academics; district-based operations; school-based operations; health and wellness; human resources and personnel; social and emotional learning; behavioral health, and family; and special education. Most committees have already met once, with the other committees meeting within the next week. We are finalizing the membership of the committees and subcommittees in the next few days and greatly appreciate the tremendous response from staff members willing to volunteer.

Although it is our goal to be able to welcome back every student and staff member for full days, every day in the fall, we recognize this may not be possible.

Accordingly, each committee is planning for three different scenarios: 1) full in-person reopening (with diligent social distancing and cleaning), 2) partial reopening (with some in-person learning and some remote learning), and 3) remote learning only. We also recognize that we may have to switch between scenarios at different points in the year.

All the questions and suggestions offered by the community through Facebook Live, District Parent Advisory Group, Teacher Advisory Group, Principal Group, and more are being incorporated into this planning. We encourage you to continue offering suggestions and questions. In particular, the Facebook Live sessions on Wednesdays (5 p.m. in English, 5:45 p.m. in Spanish) are an ideal avenue for families, students, teachers and community members to ask questions and offer solutions. We know there is a lot of buzz and speculation about what next school year will look like. We encourage you to refer to these weekly memos for the most up-to-date and accurate information.



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Swiss shoe company
- 5. ___ Caesar, comedian
- 8. ___ and flow
- 11. Horsefly
- 13. Egyptian pharaoh
- 14. African nation
- 15. Tony-winning actress Daisy
- 16. Initial public offering
- 17. Long-winding ridge
- 18. Guinea peoples
- 20. Fellow
- 21. About aviation
- 22. Able to make amends
- 25. Easy to perceive
- 30. Cut off
- 31. Northeast Thai language
- 32. Earthy pigment
- 33. Water nymphs
- 38. Returned material authorization (abbr.)
- 41. Those who deal
- 43. Apply a new fabric
- 45. Confusions

CLUES DOWN

- 48. “To ___ his own”
- 49. Lowest point of a ridge between two peaks
- 50. Heavy cavalry sword
- 55. Partner to pain
- 56. A type of savings account
- 57. In a way, felt pain
- 59. Wide-beamed sailing dinghy
- 60. Consume
- 61. Jewish spiritual leader
- 62. Body part
- 63. Midway between south and southeast
- 64. Cheek

- 5. One who takes to the seas
- 6. Select jury
- 7. Parts of the small intestine
- 8. Painter’s accessory
- 9. Honk
- 10. Ballpoint pen
- 12. Large, dark antelope
- 14. Ancient kingdom near Dead Sea
- 19. Exhausts
- 23. ___-bo: exercise system
- 24. Not written in any key or mode
- 25. Chinese principle underlying the universe
- 26. Corpuscle count (abbr.)
- 27. Powdery, post-burning residue
- 28. Company that rings receipts

- 29. Rugged mountain range
- 34. Commercials
- 35. NY football player
- 36. A form of be
- 37. Soviet Socialist Republic
- 39. Kindnesses
- 40. Natural electrical phenomenon
- 41. Your
- 42. Diana __, singer
- 44. Upper surface of the mouth
- 45. National capital
- 46. Fluid in Greek mythology
- 47. Renowned jazz trumpeter
- 48. Freedom from difficulty
- 51. Swiss river
- 52. Prejudice
- 53. Actor Idris
- 54. Revolutionaries
- 58. Criticize

CROSSWORD ANSWER on page 9



Send Us Your Photos!

TheSun@turley.com

Eatery, USO deliver lunches to essential base workers

By **Tyler S. Witkop**
Staff Writer

WILBRAHAM – Essential workers like hospital staff, police and firefighters have been on the minds of the nation for their collective efforts keeping communities across the globe as safe as possible during the current public health emergency.

As a way of saying “Thank You,” two local organizations collaborated to make a difference where it matters most, in the stomachs of hungry frontline workers at Westover Air Reserve Base in Chicopee.

For the last month, Frank Gencarelli, owner of the Village Store & Cafe in Wilbraham, has taken to the Internet crowdfunding site GoFundMe to solicit community donations to cover the cost of making 50 sandwich wraps, pasta salads and more to responders across Western Massachusetts. With the assistance of the Pioneer Valley USO, essential base workers including medical, fire and police crews were able to get a free meal Thursday, May 14.

“This is absolutely wonderful; the patriotism of the community speaks volumes,” said David Mendoza, of South Hadley, president of the Pioneer Valley USO and a 1984 Minnechaug Regional High School graduate. “Donations like this allow us to better take care of our active duty families. They’re so excited.”

Gencarelli said a fair number of his customers are essential workers in the response to the new coronavirus, includ-



David Mendoza (left), president of the Pioneer Valley USO, and Frank Gencarelli, owner of the Village Store & Cafe in Wilbraham, load a car with fresh-made sandwich wraps, pasta salads and more to deliver to frontline workers at Westover Air Reserve Base in appreciation of their efforts.

Turley Publications staff photo by Tyler S. Witkop

ing doctors, nurses, firefighters and police officers. Realizing that many of these individuals are working 12-hour shifts with little time for meal breaks at work – and limited time at home to acquire and prepare meals – he decided to put the cafe’s kitchen to work and help fuel his friends and neighbors.

He launched the GoFundMe campaign in mid-April, “Lunches For Western Mass First Responders,” with a

goal of \$400 that would cover the cost to prepare 50 sandwiches as well as pasta salads, chips and cookies. By the end of the day, a handful of donors contributed \$105 and by the end of the next, he secured enough funds to make the meals. As of press time, the initiative has secured \$2,780 through the online service, as well as cash and check donations delivered in-person by community members.

With meal deliveries already made to Baystate, Mercy and Cooley Dickinson hospitals, and now Westover, Gencarelli said he intends to continue the service as long as he can and will continue to accept donations to put smiles on the faces of those risking their lives on the job each day.

“We’re not going to stop; we’re going to keep going,” Gencarelli said, noting he and his staff have been re-energized with the fundraiser. “Let’s keep people moving.”

On the morning of May 14, Mendoza and USO volunteer Frank Ludwig, a Wilbraham veteran, drove to the Village Store to pick up the meals, which this reporter witnessed being made fresh for the day’s lunch.

“Frank is very supportive of our troops,” Ludwig said of Gencarelli.

Mendoza said he hopes to continue working with Gencarelli and his former community to continue making a difference to the local troops, perhaps targeting different shifts.

“Everybody’s impacted differently [by COVID-19], but we come together as a community with a common mission,” he said.

Those wishing to make a donation or to learn more about the campaign, visit www.gofundme.com/f/lunches-for-western-mass-first-responders.

For more information about the Village Store, call 596-3300.

To learn more about the Pioneer Valley USO or to make donations, visit pioneervally.uso.org.

Virtual walk to help those with Parkinson’s disease on May 31

BOSTON – The American Parkinson Disease Association Massachusetts Chapter is hosting the APDA Massachusetts Virtual Optimism Walk Sunday, May 31.

One of four virtual Optimism Walks happening on the same day, the Massachusetts walk is part of a nationwide series of Optimism Walks that mobilize and inspire people to step up and help put an end to Parkinson’s disease.

Participants in the APDA Massachusetts Virtual Optimism Walk will join fellow walkers from coast to coast. After an online celebration and opening ceremony, participants in all four virtual events will walk separately, but together in solidarity for the PD community.

Due to social distancing, participants will be encouraged walk on their own and share photos and comments

using #OptimismWalk so together they can still be uplifted by a great sense of community and camaraderie.

“Year after year our Optimism Walk has brought together friends, family and even strangers who are all in this fight together, and that doesn’t change with our virtual format - we are still in this together” said Kristin Stapleton, APDA Massachusetts Chapter president. “The funds raised at our Optimism Walk helps APDA provide much-needed support groups, exercise classes designed specifically for people with PD, which includes a wide array of virtual programming we’ve adapted and created to keep people supported, engaged and informed while they need to stay at home.”

To learn more and register for the APDA Massachusetts Virtual Optimism Walk, visit www.apdaparkinson.org/ma or call 800-651-8466.

MassMutual, WNEU help nonprofits, businesses through coalition

SPRINGFIELD – Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Company and the Western New England University School of Law’s Center for Social Justice have joined the COVID Relief Coalition of law firms, nonprofits and government agencies to provide small business owners and nonprofit organizations with free legal support.

Through the Coalition, members of MassMutual’s Law Department, assisted by WNE School of Law Small Business Clinic alumni and students, will provide

legal guidance to help small businesses and nonprofits understand the requirements to receive and, if eligible, access loans through the federal government’s Payment Protection Plan as well as to help identify other potential sources of relief in Western Massachusetts.

Small businesses and nonprofits seeking free legal assistance about the PPP are encouraged to contact the COVID Relief Coalition at <https://www.covidreliefcoalition.com/en/Pro-Bono-Assistance>.

POLICE, from page 1

Since last Friday, there has been a number of state police officers assigned to the mall. There were five state police cruisers around the mall Tuesday eve-

ning, but they were simply patrols as Target and Best Buy appeared to be functioning normal business that day. There have been no major incidents or violence at the Holyoke Mall since the pandemic began.

PLEASE RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER

90 Meat would like to recognize the Class of 2020 for all its accomplishments and resilience. Throughout the next few weeks we will be honoring local graduates who have worked so hard to reach their goals. This week the 90 Meat Family would like to recognize two of its own for all they have done to get to this point. Paola Nicole Vega Torres Graduating from Roger L. Putnam Voc. Tech. & Fabian Morales Chicopee High School

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2020 AND BEST WISHES FOR THE FUTURE!

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USDA INSP. SLICED IN OUR DELI ROAST BEEF \$5⁹⁹ lb	USDA INSP. FROZEN ASSORTED BAKED PIES \$2⁹⁹ ea
USDA INSP. SLICED IN OUR DELI PROVOLONE CHEESE \$3⁹⁹ lb	
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PALMER OFFICE

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Knights girls track senior squad full of runners

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

HOLYOKE – The Holyoke High School girls track team has gone through some transition with new coaches and fluctuating numbers.

But second-year coach Karla Rodriguez was set to have seven seniors, all with experience from last season and in shape from other sports.

Holyoke track has always been a competitive sport and Holyoke has been a hub for the sport with the Knights hosting Western Mass. and PVIAC meets on a number of occasions.

Selena Garcia-Rodriguez would have been one of the top sprinters on the team. Her coach she would have participated in the 100 and 200 meter races, as well as been a relay member in the 4x100. In the field, she was expected to be a high jumper for the first time.

“We were very excited to see Selena do high jump for the first time in outdoor track,” said Rodriguez. “She has an amazing work ethic and she has become an enthusiastic leader for our team.”

Morgan Sheehan was set to be in the same events as Garcia-Rodriguez. Both girls ended up being a part of a relay team that broke the school record in the 4x200 meter relay.

“This young lady is a hard-working athlete with awesome sportsmanship and great talent to push everybody around her to their greatest potential,” said

Rodriguez.

Jaydah Rivera is a distance runner, participating in the one-mile, two-mile, as well as the 4x800 relay.

“This year we were looking forward to breaking the school record in the 4x800,” said Rodriguez. “This young lady’s energy is infectious and helps to create a great atmosphere within the team.”

Lindsey Dusseault and Destiny Calderon were both mid-distance runners, specializing in the 400 and 800 meter races. They also were by 4x400 and 4x800 relayers as well.

“Lindsey is also one of our best distance runners,” said Rodriguez. “She is part of the 4x800 relay that placed fourth in Western Mass Championships last year. She has a tremendous work ethic demonstrated by her consistent commitment to the team. Her motivation to work hard it’s amazing.”

Calderon was described as one of the best competitors in the 400 in school history.

Nayellie Velez was a sprinter participating in the 100, 200, and 400 meter events.

“She is great runner,” said Rodriguez. “She brings a positive attitude to the team on a daily basis and continuously strives to get better. Nayellie is a great teammate, she’s always ready to run and never scared of trying new events. I was looking forward to see her run this season.”

Kiaralys Santiago also was

See TRACK page 8



Here are highlights of Holyoke track from last season. The Knights would have been looking to gain some momentum in coach Karla Rodriguez’s second full season with the team.
File photos



Adult baseball still hopeful for some type of season

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

EASTHAMPTON – Baseball leagues have dwindled a bit, limiting choices for collegiate stars, adult standouts from the Tri-County League, and high school players and

post-graduates who lost out on American Legion seasons.

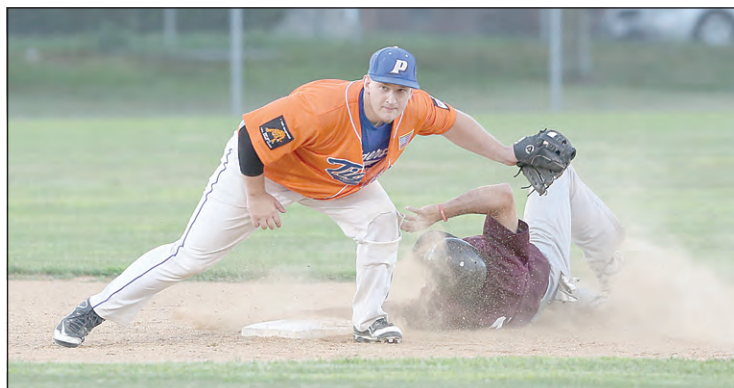
While there are no known alternative options for the younger players, there is an emerging look for adult players 25 and above.

At least four leagues have not called it quits on a 2020

season, all with the flexibility to hold their seasons later and even play into the fall.

However, even with governor’s re-open plan, it is not fully clear when teams in the leagues will be able to begin play, though many are hopeful it

See BASEBALL, page 8



Parameters and guidelines for baseball to resume at the local level have not been released by the state government.
File photos



Four adult leagues in Western Mass. are still hoping to play.

PVSSL awaiting guidance, will delay start of season

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

LUDLOW – After three months of waiting, the Pioneer Valley Summer Soccer League could be one of the first leagues to have actual games starting early next month.

Diana Kolodziej, runs the PVSSL along with her husband Chris, said earlier this week they are planning to hold a regular season and playoffs, with a slightly modified schedule.

“Based on the governor’s re-opening plan,” she said. “We are hoping to start the season sometime in early July.”

That start will not be

without questions, issues, and a lot of guidance from the state level.

Under Gov. Charlie Baker’s re-open plan, the four main phases are: Start, Cautious, Vigilant, and the New Normal.

The New Normal, until a vaccine is discovered, will still involve restrictions for people, and could have a whole new meaning for sports. But according to the Baker plan, the second phase would allow for practices to begin at various fields throughout the region.

Games should be able to begin in the third phase, vigilant. However, the guidance and regulations for businesses

See SOCCER, page 8

2020 Bay State Summer Games events cancelled through July

REGION – All Bay State Games events originally scheduled for May 30 through July 26 will be cancelled in consideration for the health and well-being of all athletes, officials, coaches, medical staff, and volunteers. The challenges and uncertainty that COVID-19 has presented prevent the organization from appropriately planning, organizing, and producing events in 30 different sports this year.

This summer, Bay State Games was set to celebrate its 39th annual Summer Games. Due to multiple venue cancellations, the inability to conduct team sport tryouts in June, decisions by sport governing bodies to suspend competitions, medical committee concerns, as well as other factors, the Summer Games will not be able to proceed as scheduled.

“We are committed to the health and well-being of our constituents. It is of the utmost importance to keep

everyone safe during these unprecedented times,” says Executive Director, Kevin Cummings. “While this was a very difficult decision, we believe it is appropriate given the unprecedented impact this pandemic has had on everyone, as well as our ability to produce events this year”

Bay State Games remains hopeful that some events may proceed in the fall if and when it is safe to do so. Sport pages on the Bay State Games website will be updated with information as it becomes available. All athletes who have registered for the 2020 Summer Games will be refunded for their registration fee. If the sport you wish to compete in can be held in the fall of 2020, it will require a new registration. For more information, please visit www.baystategames.org. Please direct all questions and inquiries to info@bay-stategames.org.

Quabbin League hoping for July start

REGION – The Quabbin Valley Over-30 Baseball League is seeking new players for 2020 season. The league has six teams, several with open roster spots. Last year, the league voted to allow players age 28 and 29 to be able to join the league, though players under 30 are not eligible to pitch. The cost of the league this season is \$192. For returning and new players, sign-ups have been placed on hold until a determination has been made on the season going forward. Sign-ups should resume

soon. The league is hopefully to begin play sometime in early-to-mid-July. The season is 15 regular season games plus at least one playoff game. A modified schedule is being worked on by league officials. Games are nine innings and metal (BBCOR -3) or wood bats are allowed. Fields locations are throughout Western Mass. For more information on the league, or if you are interested in registering, go to <https://www.quabbinvalley-baseball.org/>. The league is also in Facebook.

Valley Wheel Over-30 League aiming to play summer baseball

REGION – The Valley Wheel Over-30 Baseball League is seeking new players for the upcoming 2020 season. The league is seeking players ages 28 and up. Players turning 28 this year are eligible. However, only players 30 and older can pitch. The league plays 15 regular season games with games being held mostly on Sundays with a couple of weekday games thrown in the mix as well as a special Mother’s Day Saturday game in early May. However, due to the current circumstances, the league schedule has been pushed back. The league still plans to play its season once bans on gatherings are lifted. The league is hoping for

late June, early July start to the season, dependent on the terms of the governor’s re-open plan. The league is built on comradery, fair play, and having a good time with friends.

If interested in trying out, go to www.valleywheelbaseball.com. The rules of the league and new player forms can be found on the site.

For further information, you can contact the league’s commissioner, Jim Nason at wheel12@comcast.net or call him at (413) 433-4308. Tryouts will be take place as soon as conditions are allowed, but new player applications are still being accepted.

Senior athletes being featured

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

The Turley Publications sports department is looking to honor the senior athletes who have had their spring seasons cancelled by the coronavirus pandemic.

The senior features have already started rolling out, but if you have not seen your senior featured, we encouraged you to send photos and info on your son or daughter, and encourage you to contact their coach to speak with us.

We have reached out to spring coaches and athletic directors, but are

still trying to collect info on every team that would have been involved in this spring’s season.

We hope to also publish action photos of seniors from previous seasons, though parents and coaches are encouraged to send photos of seniors they would like to see published in the upcoming editions of the paper.

All submissions can be made to Sports Editor Gregory A. Scibelli at sports@turley.com. In the subject line, please identify the school and sport you are writing in about. Senior athletes are also encouraged to write in to talk about the season that wasn’t.

Email the sports editor: sports@turley.com

BASEBALL, from page 7

will be sometime this month.

Phase 2, known as “Cautious,” is supposed to allow teams to begin practicing. Phase 2 is supposed to start on Monday, June 8. However, each phase has had sub-phases with different activities and businesses opening up each week since the re-open plan began on Monday, May 18.

Also, different communities will take different approaches to opening recreational facilities, making the availability of fields also limited.

Adult players, some of whom are Tri-County American or National players, have begun looking at the various leagues for open spots to play, or even to possibly enter teams.

The Western Mass. Wood Bat League is currently an eight-team league that has been in existence for many years. It allows players who are age 25 and up and could be a potential landing spot for several Tri-County players with the higher level of competition and the use of wooden bats.

The other three leagues looking into restarts are “over-30” leagues. All three have existed for a while, though two of the leagues have changed their eligibility for players this year.



Under the governor’s re-open plan, baseball may be able to return in late June or early July.

The Valley Wheel Over-30 Baseball League has changed to allow players 28 and up, though pitchers may not pitch in the league until they are 30. The Quabbin Valley league has also adopted the same rule.

Both leagues would have normally started Sunday games the last week of April. Both league are eyeing starts sometime in early July based on how the governor’s guidance for Phase 3 dictates a return to actual competition.

The Pioneer Valley Over-30 Baseball

League is also still on the table. The Pioneer Valley League is also a wooden bat league, but normally plays Saturdays and Tuesdays.

The Quabbin League held a meeting Sunday, and is hoping for the July start, and the league’s president said it is depending on what fields would allow play and allow it soonest.

None of the leagues have decided how long of a season it would play or what type of modified schedule it would have.

are only allowing players to practice in smaller groups.

Finally, Kolodziey said the early July start to the season is dependent on there being no setbacks in the governor’s re-opening plan where restrictions would have to be re-enacted. As of press time, Massachusetts has not had any setbacks on the re-open plan and numbers have continued to trend in a positive direction.

Under the current timeline, Phase 3 should start on June 29.

With the currently timeline, if the league does play, it would and transition

TRACK, from page 7

a sprinter. Rodriguez said she was looking forward to seeing her progress this season.

“She possesses great sportsmanship and strength,” said Rodriguez. “We were all looking forward to see her run this season and succeed in all her events.”

The closure of the spring season was a let-down as Rodriguez was looking forward to seeing what her squad could do in her second year coaching.

“As a coach I was very excited for this season,” said Rodriguez. “These young ladies were well prepared and we knew that this season was going to be different. All these ladies have a tremendous work ethic, which is evident from the team continuous growth and their many achievements. All of the team members were very excited for this final season. They were ready to break 3 school records and qualify to Western Mass and Divisional Championships. It was heartbreaking to see how this global pandemic affected all this season, yet I know that these young women will be able to persevere through anything.”

SOCCER, from page 7

and activities have yet to be made public by the Baker administration.

Kolodziey they are waiting for that guidance from the governor’s office so it can inform teams of how they must conduct themselves.

Restrictions could include social distancing when not directly involved in the game, possible temperature checks, wearing masks when not in the field of play, and disallowing fans from games.

Modifications of these rules could also be possible. In the case of soccer, fans could possibly be allowed if they are on the opposite end of the field and fans are properly distanced from one another, like in the case of people going to the beach, which are now open.

The other major issue the PVSSL will have to watch closely is each town and how the individual communities and cities lift restrictions on field use, allowing games, and gatherings of various sizes.

Currently, certain professional sports

right into the fall preseason practices. However, it also remains to be seen if those will start on time and what they will look like.

For up-to-date information on the state of the PVSSL, go to www.pvsummersoccerleague.com.

The PVSSL has two divisions each of high school boys soccer, and high school girls soccer. There are also mens and womens adult leagues. All are expected to play if there are no further delays or restrictions that will prevent the season from happening.

RV, from page 5

the people who already practice RVing talk to their friends and relatives about it, it's general consensus that RVs are the only chance that we've got for people to recreate and try to forget the past two months and the impact that it's had on their lives."

One recent weekend, a member of the association was able to sell 27 units in one weekend, Zagami said. He added that "anything you can have in your house today; you can have in an RV."

From trunk trailers to fifth-wheelers and park models, mobile homes come in all shapes and sizes. For people

planning a vacation or just looking to temporarily leave their surroundings, mobile homes can be a resource of great value.

"People want to go on vacation; they want to spend time with their family. We're just saying, 'Hey, we have a better way to do it.' Quite honestly, the industry is working on a campaign just for that. The message is going to get out there that says, 'Hey, if you're going to do anything this year, you're probably going to do it in an RV,'" said Zagami.

The New England RV Dealers Association represents RV dealers in all six New England states and is based out of Hudson.

Springfield Team Hope Walk goes virtual

SPRINGFIELD – The Massachusetts and Rhode Island Chapter of the Huntington's Disease Society of America announced it will host the Springfield Virtual Team Hope Walk Saturday, May 30. Registration is free.

Team Hope is HDSEA's largest grassroots fundraising event, which takes place in more than 100 cities across the country and raising more than \$14 million since its inception in 2007. Thousands of families, friends and supporters walk to support the Society's mission to improve the lives of those affected by Huntington's disease.

"The virtual walk in Springfield has

the potential of being exciting," Kinser Cancelmo, event coordinator and Chapter board member, said. "Let's see how creative we can get."

A virtual walk is a real walk, but completed on individual terms. Participants get to choose their course, like one's own driveway, neighborhood or home treadmill.

For more information, contact Cancelmo at 413-265-5176 or email kcancelm@springfieldcollege.edu. Registration and donation information is available online at hdsa.org/thwspringfield.

RAIL, from page 1

coronavirus while correcting long-standing inequities."

"Now is the time to take the pressure off of our highway system," added U.S. Rep. Richard Neal, D-Massachusetts. "We can do this with renewable energy in mind. We can make this very green friendly and also remind people, as we go forward with rail, the rest of the world already does this, and they've embraced it enthusiastically. It's a very efficient way to travel."

Application for the competitive grant funding created by the "Brain Train" Act would be evaluated based on the levels of estimated ridership, increased on-time performance, reduced trip time, or additional rail service frequency; the anticipated provision of passenger rail service in

regions that are historically and persistently unconnected or under-connected; and the anticipated favorable impact on air or traffic congestion and safety.

It also directs DOT to give greater preference to projects that encourage direct connection between multiple modes of transportations — train and transit stations, bus terminals, subway stations, ferry ports, and more; improve conventional intercity passenger, freight or commuter rail operations; provide environmental benefits, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve air quality and public health, provide positive economic and employment impacts, and provide enhanced transportation options for persons with disabilities.

Pittsfield Mayor Linda Tyer spoke at the conference as well, noting her city has often felt disconnected from the rest of the

state, and is excited about new opportunities expanded rail could have for the city.

"The ability to get on a train and quickly get to Springfield, Worcester or Boston is something many people in our city have dreamed about for a very long time," Tyer said.

Markey confirmed this would not be an allocation of existing funds, but brand new funds, a new infrastructure bill and new passenger rail projects in Western Massachusetts and across the country. Details such as the construction of new tracks and where stops would be are left to the individual projects to plan. Markey said any form of hearings on the legislation will be a part of the process, which is dependent on when the next coronavirus relief package is finalized by Congress.

"Once we begin the discussion on an infrastructure bill, then this will be part of

that discussion," he said.

Markey was asked during the press conference if the allocation of \$25 billion for public rail transportation during a time when the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention are recommending people avoid mass transit systems is a wise course of action. Markey said he feels it's important to prepare for a time when society has overcome COVID-19.

"We have to plan for a future that allows for people to get back on trains again. We have to have a vision of what that will look like," he said. "While we're putting a massive amount of effort into finding a vaccine...we need a long term vision for passenger rail and we have to simultaneously assume that people will be going back on passenger rail because we will find a public health solution to the coronavirus."

Public Notices

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Probate and Family Court
Hampden Division
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Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-8600
Docket No. HD20P0802EA
Estate of:
Jennifer Lee Moulton Proctor
Also Known As:
Jennifer L. Moulton Proctor,
Jennifer Proctor
Date of Death:
January 23, 2020
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PUBLICATION NOTICE
To all persons inter-

ested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner Jason M. Proctor of Holyoke, MA.

Jason M. Proctor of Holyoke, MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties

are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.

6/05/2020

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Division
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-8600
Docket No. HD20P0793EA
Estate of:
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Also Known As:
EDWARD PATRICK LANG, JR.
Date of Death:
APRIL 13, 2020
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PUBLICATION NOTICE
To all persons interested in the above captioned estate,

by Petition of Petitioner KATHLEEN L. HUNTER OF SPRINGFIELD, MA a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

KATHLEEN L. HUNTER OF SPRINGFIELD, MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but

interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.

6/05/2020

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All public notices to be published in the Holyoke Sun should be sent directly to notices@turley.com. Jamie Joslyn processes all public notices for this newspaper and can answer all of your questions regarding these notices. Please indicate the newspapers and publication date(s) for the notice(s) in the subject line of your email. For questions regarding coverage area, procedures or cost, please call Jamie directly at 413-283-8393.

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The Sun
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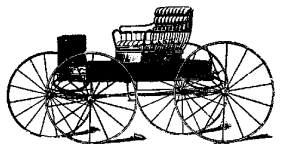
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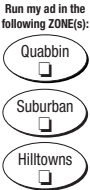
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State fire marshal urges springing safely into summer

State Fire Marshal Peter Ostroskey provided some tips and safety information, following the kick-off of the summer grilling season.

“Take a few minutes for a safety check and inspect grills for leaks and cracks and teach children to stay three feet away from any grill in use,” said Ostroskey.

Check for Leaks

“Check to make sure all the connections are tight and secure before firing up the gas grill for the first time this season,” said Fire Marshal Ostroskey. “Using a brush, apply a soapy solution made of one part dish liquid and one part water to the tank connection. If the solution bubbles, you have a leak that needs repair.”

He recommended checking for and replacing any cracked hoses.

Rules for Grills on Porches, Decks and Patios

“Grills can only be used on first floor porches, decks, or patios if there is an outdoor stairway to the ground, or the porch is at ground level. Grills are prohibited on any porch, balcony or deck that has a roof, or overhang,” said State Fire Marshal Ostroskey. For more information, contact your local fire prevention office.

Safety First

Over the past five years (2015 to 2019), there were 449 fires involving grills, hibachis and barbeques. These fires caused 20 civilian injuries, five firefighter injuries and \$3.8 million in estimated property damages.

- Here are some tips:
- Read and follow the owner’s manual for any cooking appliance.
 - Always grill outdoors.
 - Keep children and pets three feet



away from the grill area. Create a circle of safety.

- Place grills 10-feet away from the house. Make sure they are not under eaves, overhanging branches or against the side of the building. Keep them away from deck railings.
- Grills can be used on open (no roof) first floor porches, decks or patios if there is an exterior stairway to the ground, or it is at ground level.
- Grills should never be used indoors or on fire escapes.
- Never leave a grill burning unattended.
- Keep the grill clean by removing grease or fat build-up from the grills and trays below the grill.
- If you smell gas while cooking, immediately get away from the grill and call the fire department. Do not move the grill.
- If the flame goes out, turn the grill and gas off and wait 15 minutes before

- relighting.
- Never use gasoline on any grill. Shut Off the Gas at the Tank
- After each use, and before disconnecting the propane tank, be sure to shut off the gas at the tank.

Charcoal Grill Safety

State Fire Marshal Ostroskey also said, “Practice safety around charcoal grills.”

Once the coals have been lit, never add lighter fluid to the fire – flames may travel up the stream of lighter fluid resulting in serious burns. Charcoal briquettes give off carbon monoxide, a colorless, odorless gas that can be deadly.

“Make sure to always use charcoal grills outside in a well-ventilated area,” he added. “Let the coals cool completely before disposing in a metal container.”

Charcoal grills cannot be used on decks, balconies or fire escape stairways.

Smoking Fire Safety

There have been so many fires this spring from improperly discarded smoking materials on porches and in backyards. These fires can smolder undetected for a long time and when they erupt into flames, travel fast. If you smoke, put it out all the way, every time. Extinguish smoking materials in a can with sand or water, not in the mulch, leaves grass, a potted plant or other container that can catch fire. Don’t snub them out on the porch railing or stairs.

On May 9, 2020, one woman was hospitalized with burns suffered escaping a fire in her two-family home. The improper disposal of smoking materials ignited the porch fire.

A 58-year old woman died in a May 4, 2020 fire in her home in Hanson when improperly discarded smoking materials ignited a fire on the porch of the one-family home.

Gasoline and Lawn Mowers

Ostroskey said, “If your older children are learning to mow the lawn, be sure to teach them about gasoline safety at the same time.”

Gasoline vapors are highly flammable. They stay on your clothing and can ignite if you light a match.

Here are some tips:

- Store gasoline only in approved containers, outside.
- Keep gasoline away from all heat sources, such as smoking materials, pilot lights, campfires, and grills.
- Fill a cooled lawn mower. Never refill while it is hot.
- Keep hands and feet away from a mower while it’s running.
- Never use gasoline to start a campfire.

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REAL ESTATE

Classified Advertising DEADLINES

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Wistariahurst launches Pandemic Archive Project

Public contributions of stories and images requested

HOLYOKE – Wistariahurst, a historic site, archive and cultural center owned and operated by the city of Holyoke, has announced a project to document the local experience of the COVID-19 pandemic in Holyoke.

Members of the public are encouraged to submit stories, photos, audio files or video to a growing online collection that will give future researchers a glimpse at what life was like during this crisis for people in Holyoke. All contributions that relate to Holyoke are welcome and will become a part of Holyoke’s digital archival collection held at Wistariahurst. Due to the sensitive and ever-changing nature of the disaster, submissions will not be released as part of the public archives until 2025. Submissions are made online at www.Wistariahurst.org/Corona-Archive-Holyoke.

“As a community archive, we simply had to find a way to capture the community’s voice during these unprecedented times,” says Penni Martorell, Holyoke City Historian and Wistariahurst Curator. “What each of us is experiencing and how it is affecting us as individuals is different. Capturing all that difference, all the tiny moments, is what makes the historical record most interesting and most accurate.”

The goal of this project is to gather varied points-of-view of what is happening during this historic moment. In order to capture a broad swath of experiences from the community, Wistariahurst has



The Wistariahurst Museum is working to create an online collection and archive for life during the coronavirus pandemic.

File photo

decided to crowdsource a digital archive of the virus and its impact on everyday life. The end result will be a community collection, written and recorded in people’s own words, providing a trove of primary sources for future readers. As a Holyoke-based archive, the collection will be focused on personal experiences and stories related to Holyoke including contributions from those who live or work in Holyoke, had an experience in Holyoke, saw an image or sign in

Holyoke, and/or recorded a conversation with someone from Holyoke.

“This is an open invitation to our community to share their story as part of a collective memory of these times, preserved for researchers in the future,” emphasizes Martorell. “Every voice is important.”

In addition to those who will undoubtedly be formally studying this crisis in the future, the resulting collection is envisioned as a teaching tool for

students to learn about how history is made, the importance of individual stories standing alongside official sources, and related questions about who makes history, how memories are curated and used and who has access.

About the Submission Process

The submission form is in English and Spanish and submissions can be made in any language.

Contributed materials can be in the form of:

- a digital image (JPG);
- a digital audio or video file (MP3, MP4);
- a text document (TXT, DOC, PDF);
- a link to a website or web archive of significance (<http://>);
- a plain text submission

Submitters will be asked to provide an email contact and sign a release form. The material submitted will be part of the public record and freely searchable and usable by researchers in the future. In addition, please be mindful of HIPPA laws. We cannot accept any material that references the health of anyone other than the submitter. Please share your personal health stories and do not use names or identifying info when discussing other positive cases or health details.

There are some limitations on file sizes due to the capacity of our collection process. Collected material and files will not be shared until May of 2025.

To view what a similar project conducted on a national scale looks like, please visit Arizona State University’s A Journal of The Plague Year: An Archive of COVID 19 which can be seen at www.COVID19.Omeka.net.

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